

file

September 8, 1988

TO: File

FROM: Scott Johnson *Scot*

RE: Site Inspection, Big Cottonwood Clay Pit, M/035/003 Salt Lake County, Utah

Wayne Hedberg and I inspected this site with Lance Jackson and Kristina Moran today to review reclamation possibilities. Wayne and I also climbed the mountain to inspect the slump caused by the 1984 earthflow.

Questar, the parent company of Interstate Brick, would like to market the pit site for real estate development. The four of us at the site all agreed that a housing project in the pit may be unsafe.

Lance is concerned about the liability Interstate may have in regards to the earthflow:

1. First, assume no reclamation is done by Interstate, and the developer regrades and plants vegetation. If the property is developed with houses, could Interstate be liable for future damage caused by additional earthflow?
2. Second, assume Interstate regrades, contours and plants vegetation according to the reclamation plan. Although they have complied with the Division requirements, could Interstate or the Division be liable for future damage caused by additional earthflow?
3. Finally, assume Interstate constructs a large berm on the western edge of the property. This berm was one recommendation by Seegmiller International to prevent earthflow from reaching the Canyon Cove subdivision. What agency, if any, would assist Interstate in the funding of this construction?

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I get the impression that Questar is anxious to develop the land for housing. I think Lance would rather see the berm, but without the guidance of the Division or Salt Lake County, will abide with Questars decision to develop. We need to let Lance know our position and/or recommendations.

jb
cc: L. Braxton
W. Hedberg
17/2-3